**Florida Forensic League**

**Timucuan Regional Tournament**

**Saturday, February 3rd, 2024**

Dear Coach,

Happy New Year!

As you return to school from a (hopefully) restful holiday break, it’s time to plan your entry for the 2024 Florida Forensic League Timucuan Region Qualifying Tournament! This event will be held at **Lake Highland Preparatory School**  on Saturday, February 03, 2024.

This tournament is the gateway into participation in FFL activities for the remainder of the year. The top 9 entries in each event will qualify to compete at the State Championship tournament, which will be held on March 3 and 4 at Wellington HS. Whether or not your students qualify to the State Championship, participation at the Regional Tournament will allow your school to enter the Novice State Tournament in April at Apopka HS.

Here are the 4 most important things you need to know when planning your entry:

1. If your school fails to enter the Regional Tournament, it forfeits the opportunity to attend Novice State and participate in Coach of the Year voting. Must only enter (1) one student at Regional Quals.

2. The number of qualifiers in each event is based on the number of schools that participate in the previous year’s Regional Tournament. Thus, **it is imperative that every member school in the region send at least one student to compete at the qualifying tournament.** If only a few schools in our region fail to participate, we could lose qualifying spots in 2025!

3. **Every student you enter into the Regional Qualifying Tournament must be available to compete at the State Championship Tournament if they qualify. There are substantial financial penalties for dropping from the State Tournament. Thus, you should make sure that every student from your school who wants to enter this tournament is available to compete on March 3 and 4.**

4. First-year students are welcome to attend the Regional Tournament and are eligible to qualify for the State Championship. They WILL NOT lose their eligibility to compete at Novice State. In theory, a novice could win the State Championship and still compete at Novice State the following month!

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you on the 3rd of February at Lake Highland.

**QUESTIONS**

-- Meals and Directions: Tournament Host – Nathan Johnston – njohnston@lhps.org

--Entries, Fees, Drops, Rules: Tournament Director – Nathan Johnston – njohnston@lhps.org

--**Day of Tournament Emergencies:** Nathan Johnston – 803-582-8572

**ENTRY PROCESS**

Entry will take place on [www.speechwire.com](http://www.speechwire.com) You must have a SpeechWire account to register for any of the FFL Tournaments.

**\*\*\*If you are entering Student Congress, you should submit at least one bill/resolution for the agenda. You may send as many items of legislation as students who are entering. Please send bills as a Word attachment and make sure they are in FFL format (see Student Congress manual) to** Nathan Johnston – njohnston@lhps.org

Legislation is Due – January 19th

**MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT & SCHOOL-SANCTIONED ADULT**

Only schools that are members of the league for 2023-2024 may participate at this tournament. Also, please remember that a school-approved adult must accompany students to the tournament and remain on site for the entire competition. If the school-approved adult is **NOT** the *Head Coach* or *Assistant Coach* on record with the league, then a letter signed by the school principal and printed on school stationery **MUST** be submitted with the school’s entry. The letter needs to specifically name the adult in charge. The penalty for failing to submit this document is disqualification of all contestants from the school involved.

**EVENTS OFFERED**

Policy Debate World Schools Debate U.S. Extemp Dramatic Interp.

Lincoln Douglas Debate International Extemp Humorous Interp. Program Oral Interp.

Public Forum Debate Original Oratory Informative Speaking

Student Congress Duo Interp. After Dinner Speaking Impromptu

**ENTRY LIMITS**

Each member school may submit up to six (6) entries per event, except in World Schools Debate. (2 entries per school).

Schools that purchased a membership supplement may enter up to four (4) additional entries per event, except in Group Interp. (1 additional entry). **All entries on the supplement must be students in grades 6 – 8 (for middle school supplement) or 9 (for ninth grade supplement). Entering students in grades 10-12 on the supplemental form will result in automatic disqualification of those students. Enter mixed teams/units (eg: a 9th grader and 11th grader on a Policy Debate team) on the high school form.**

**DOUBLE ENTRY**

Double entry and double qualification is permitted, except in Policy Debate, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, World Schools Debate, and Student Congress. Also, cross-entry between U.S. Extemp and International Extemp is prohibited.

**EVENT REMINDERS**

--*Policy Debate* will use the 2023-2024 topic.

--*Lincoln-Douglas Debate* will use the January/February.

--*Public Forum Debate* will use the February topic.

--*Student Congress* will follow the FFL Congress Manual. Entries will determine the number of chambers; if there are two or more chambers, there will be a Super Congress. All schools must submit legislation (see **ENTRY PROCESS** above). Legislation will be available on the tabroom.com Regional website after noon on

--*Extemporaneous/Impromptu Speaking Events* – Topic Areas TBD

--*All Speech/Interpretation Events:*

1. There is a 30-second grace period in these events. A contestant who goes beyond the grace period may not be ranked first in that round.

2. All contestants must have a copy of their piece/oration available for review by tournament officials. Failure to present a copy of the applicable document and evidence of publication will result in disqualification.

3. **FFL has enacted many changes during the Fall Vote. The membership needs to be aware of all of rule changes. These rule changes are listed on the FFL Home Page under “Results”. FFL is actively**

**working to update the Governing Documents, however coaches should review/familiarize themselves with these changes.**

4. The name of each contestant’s piece/oration must be recorded on SpeechWire.com A student may

change their piece between Regional Quals and Varsity State

**ANTI-VANDALISM REQUIREMENTS**

To protect the property of our host school, the following rules are in effect:

**1. No contestant or student observer shall enter or remain in a contest room without a judge present. The penalty for violation of this regulation shall be immediate disqualification from the tournament.**

2. One room will be designated for Policy debaters to prep between rounds. An adult proctor will supervise that room.

3. Vandalism of property by any person at an FFL tournament shall result in immediate notification of school and/or local police authorities. The Board of Directors shall notify the principal of the school associated with the vandal(s) in writing and insist upon appropriate remuneration. In the case of vandalism by a contestant, the additional penalty of immediate disqualification from the tournament shall also apply.**RULES COMPLIANCE**

Reviewing the following documents in advance of the tournament will help to ensure that your students comply with all FFL rules and regulations. Questions regarding these rules should be addressed to the Tournament Director.

**All of the following documents are available online at** [**https://floridaforensicsleague.com/**](https://floridaforensicsleague.com/)

1. *FFL Governing Documents*

You should review the general tournament rules with your students; **it is strongly recommended that you ALSO print a copy of the event-specific rules and give them to your students so that they can make sure they are in compliance.**

2. *FFL Civility Code*

This document prescribes rules of behavior that are generally observed by all contestants and adults at forensic contests. If you have inexperienced contestants and/or judges, you should give them a copy of this document.

3. *Student Congress Manual*

You should give a copy of this document to each of your contestants in Student Congress.

4. *State of Florida Uniform Judging Manual*

You should give a copy of this document to each of your judges. There will be no copies available at the tournament.

5. Ballots for debate events, speech master ballots, speech contestant critique sheets, and protest forms are also available for download from the above web page. However, it is highly encouraged that you do online balloting.

**JUDGES & REQUIREMENTS**

1. All judges should be properly trained using the statewide judging manual. Please make sure that each of your judges has their own copy; the tournament will not provide them.

2. All judges should bring and use a reliable digital timer.

3. The following judge requirements are in place for this tournament:

--Policy Debate: One judge for every two teams or fraction thereof

--Lincoln Douglas Debate: One judge for every two debaters or fraction thereof

--Public Forum Debate: One judge for every two teams or fraction thereof

-- World Schools Debate: One judge for every two teams or fraction thereof

--Speech/IE, Including Congress: One judge for every five entries or fraction thereof. Each Duo team

counts as one entry only.

**The Tournament Director reserves the right to disqualify students from any school that is unable to meet its judging quota.**

**ENTRY FEES**

Each Contestant: $25.00 ($7 for FFL; $18 for meals / regional expenses)

**This is a “per student” entry fee; thus events with 2 people per entry pay 2 fees; Group Interp. pays as many entry fees as there are students in the group; THERE IS NO ADDITIONAL FEE FOR DOUBLE ENTRY**

Extra Lunches: $10.00 each (purchase for all coaches, judges, observers, etc.)

**Fees are due at registration; no exceptions! Please check with the Tournament Director regarding check payments and to whom the checks should be made payable.**

**DROP FEES**

Drops Fees are $10 per instance in addition to the forfeiture of entry fees.

**TOURNAMENT FORMAT & SCHEDULE**

*Final Registration*: 7:30 am – 8:00 am. Any school not registered at 8:00 am will be eliminated from competition. Round One will begin shortly after 8:00 am.

The format for each event will depend on the number of entries received. The Tournament Director will publish the number of preliminary and elimination rounds (if any) along with any power-matching schemes at final registration.

**MEALS**

Contestant meals are included in the cost of entry. Additional meals for coaches, judges, parents, observers, etc. are $10.00 each and must be ordered on tabroom.com as well

The tournament will be “closed campus.” Any contestant found leaving campus is subject to disqualification.

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| **Tournament Schedule - Feb. 3, 2023** | | |
| **7:30 AM** | Registration |  |
| **8:30 AM** | Round 1 Extemp Prep |  |
| **9:00 AM** | Round 1 Round 1: ADS, CD, CX, DI, DUO, DX, HI, IMP, INFO, IX, LD, OO, PF, POI, WSD |  |
| **10:00 AM** | Round 2 Extemp Prep |  |
| **10:30 AM** | Round 2 Round 2: ADS, CX, DI, DUO, DX, HI, IMP, INFO, IX, LD, OO, PF, POI, WSD |  |
| **12:30 PM** | Round 3 Extemp Prep Round 2: CD |  |
| **1:00 PM** | Round 3 Round 3: ADS, CX, DI, DUO, DX, HI, IMP, INFO, IX, LD, OO, PF, POI, WSD |  |
| **2:00 PM** | Round 4 Extemp Prep |  |
| **2:30 PM** | Round 4 Round 4: ADS, CX, DI, DUO, DX, HI, IMP, INFO, IX, LD, OO, PF, POI, WSD |  |
| **3:30 PM** | Finals Congress Final round: CD |  |
| **4:00 PM** | Round 5 Round 5: CX, LD, PF, WSD |  |